

EXISTING VEGETATION OF GOVERNOR THOMPSON STATE PARK

A great deal of tree diversity is found within the study area. Some stands are dominated by white and red pine, others by mature scrub oak mixed with red, bur, and white oak, and red and sugar maple. Other trees present include paper birch, trembling and big-toothed aspen *and* basswood, hemlock, and balsam fir. Historically, scrub oak, also called Hill's oak, probably occurred primarily as a shrub in jack pine barrens. This trend of an increase in mature scrub oak following fire suppression is also seen in northwest Wisconsin in the large former jack pine barrens in Burnett, Washburn and Douglas counties. Young white pine, black cherry, red maple, red oak and balsam fir are often found thriving in stands, having moved in from an adjacent seed source. Stands located by the banks of the Peshtigo River will often include wet area trees within a few feet of more upland species. In general, the park is a mixture of Aspen and wetland vegetative coverage. Because of the Aspen harvesting that took place over the years there is a wide size range of Aspen. The uplands also have a mixture of oak and some maple.

| Vegetative Management Alternatives | | | |
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| ALTERNATIVE CONCEPT | NATURAL SUCCESSION | MAINTAIN EXISTING TYPES | RESTORE TO PRE SETTLEMENT TYPES |
| MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health, safety and development needs will be met Sanitation of diseased, down & dangerous trees near use areas May treat disease and insect outbreaks Ornamental plants are natives Wetland types undisturbed Shorelines appear natural & wild May create barrens for education May promote old-growth type Passive management No changes to stand types tried | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health, safety and development needs will be met Sanitation of diseased, down & dangerous trees near use areas May treat disease and insect outbreaks Ornamental plants are natives Wetland types undisturbed Shorelines appear natural & wild May create barrens for education May promote old-growth type Large trees kept for esthetics Thin red pine plantations for optimum growth Regenerate aspen & oak by harvesting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health, safety and development needs will be met Sanitation of diseased, down & dangerous trees near use areas May treat disease and insect outbreaks Ornamental plants are natives Wetland types undisturbed Shorelines appear natural & wild May create barrens for education May promote old-growth type Restore red oak, scrub oak, jack pine & barrens Restore swamp conifer types Thin out pine plantations Reduce aspen acreage |
| Activity Level | Least Activity | Higher Activity | Most Activity |

| Park Entry Location Alternatives | | |
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| PARK ENTRY ALTERNATIVE (Pick one) | NORTH ENTRY Boat Landing #13 Rd. | SOUTH ENTRY Ranch Rd. |
| Advantages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be more scenic Closer to Boat Landing #13 Distant from Parkway Road Buffer from Parkway Road | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Easier traffic route Close to future office and shop Easy to find and identify Utilities - water and power supply are established |
| Disadvantages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More road to build Difficult turn from Parkway Road Difficult to locate | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Powerline R.O.W. Bedrock exposed Less scenic gateway from Ranch Rd. |